

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1710
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9TH MARCH, 2021**

NATIONAL POLIO IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

**1710 SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:
SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR:
SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH:
SHRI KUMAR KETKAR:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Polio Immunisation programme has been deferred or suspended, if so, the reasons therefor
- (b) the date when the National Immunisation Day (NID) will be conducted which was scheduled for January 17, 2020, and subsequently postponed
- (c) whether the Ministry has assessed the potential adverse impact that suspension or deferment of the programme will have on preventing polio in children and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY)**

(a) & (b): The National Polio Immunisation programme was rescheduled from 17th January 2021 to 31st January 2021 since the massive countrywide COVID-19 vaccination drive which is world's largest immunization exercise was rolled out from 16th January 2021. The National Immunisation Day (NID) was conducted successfully on 31st January 2021.

(c) & (d): There was no adverse impact due to rescheduling of NID which was successfully conducted within two weeks and more than 15.8 crore children were vaccinated during this NID.